

State/OIR...

16 February 1955

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

SUBJECT: Situation with respect to OIR

Date 22 JAN 91

HRP 89-2

1. The attached is for you. I do not share the sentiment of the last sentences of paragraph 2e.
2. The point is, as I indicated to you orally, that for more than one reason the Office of Intelligence Research in the Department of State has lost much of its one time strength and presently seems to be approaching a place where its weakness will very adversely affect the whole National Intelligence Estimate program.
3. OIR has for the past 4 years plus made written contributions which amounted to about 75 percent of 75 percent of the NIE's.
4. OIR is still committed to contribute at about this scale.
5. OIR will have increasing difficulty in meeting this commitment with the result showing up in the inadequacy and tardiness of NIE's.
6. The task presently performed by OIR in behalf of the NIE program must be performed by some intelligence outfit. Frail as OIR is, I see no other outfit presently able to take on the task.
7. Recommendation. Steps must be taken and taken soon to arrest the decline of OIR - irrespective of what later disposition may be made of OIR.

SHERMAN KENT  
Assistant Director  
National Estimates

attachments:  
copy of memo, 13 Jan 55  
CLCooper to AD/NE

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ATTACHMENT